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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/678,487	10/03/2000	Bradley Dee Carlson	447	6194

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EXAMINER
JAMAL, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2643	2

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/678,487	CARLSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Alexander Jamal	2643	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *03 October 2000* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-17* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1-17** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamartino (09291213).

a. **Claim 1:** Yamartino discloses a telephone number dialer that dials a phone number plus area code after the user has entered a standard 7-digit telephone number (with a prefix and suffix portion) comprising:

i. A keypad used to enter in telephone digits (Col 4 lines 62-65).

ii. Area code processor 110 coupled to a keypad at the calling party 180 and to the phone line through caller interface 140 and call generator 160 (Fig. 1) (Col 4 lines 27-36)

iii. Area code processor 110 is coupled to Database 120 (Fig.1). The database is used to store area codes along with their associated 7-digit telephone numbers (each 7-digit number comprising a prefix and suffix) (Col 7 lines 6-11). Non-Volatile memory is inherent to a microprocessor system that is maintaining an updatable database of information.

iv. The processor will automatically dial an area-code followed by a 7-digit telephone number (the first plurality of digits consisting of the area code plus 7-digit number) once a user has dialed a 7 digit phone number whose prefix corresponds to a previously stored number associated with an area code stored in a database (Col 7 lines 38-47).

b. Claim 2: In Yamartino's auto-dialer, the first plurality of digits comprises 10 digits including the area code and 7-digit telephone number. The second plurality of digits is a standard telephone number, which is comprised of a 3-digit prefix and a 4-digit suffix.

c. Claim 3: Yamartino discloses a telephone number dialer that dials a phone number plus area code after the user has entered a standard 7-digit telephone number (with a prefix and suffix portion) comprising:

i. A keypad used to enter in telephone digits (Col 4 lines 62-65).

ii. Area code processor 110 coupled to a keypad at the calling party 180 and to the phone line through caller interface 140 and call generator 160 (Fig. 1) (Col 4 lines 27-36)

iii. Area code processor 110 is coupled to Database 120 (Fig.1). The database is used to store area codes along with their associated 7-digit telephone numbers (each 7-digit number comprising a prefix and suffix) (Col 7 lines 6-11). Non-Volatile memory is inherent to a microprocessor system that is maintaining an updatable database of information.

iv. The processor will automatically dial an area-code followed by a 7-digit telephone number (the first plurality of digits consisting of the area code plus 7-digit number) once a user has dialed a 7 digit phone number whose prefix corresponds to a previously stored number associated with an area code stored in a database (Col 7 lines 38-47). Additionally, if the prefix corresponds to multiple area codes, then the processor will allow the caller to select the correct number/area-code combination from a list via selector 155 (Fig. 1) (Col 5 line 64 to Col 6 line 7)

d. **Claim 4:** In Yamartino's auto-dialer, the first plurality of digits comprises 10 digits including the area code and 7-digit telephone number. The second plurality of digits is a standard telephone number, which is comprised of a 3-digit prefix and a 4-digit suffix.

e. **Claim 5:** Yamartino's auto dialer can examine a dialed 7-digit telephone number and create a list of possible telephone numbers with area codes (Col 4 lines 16-20). If the list only contains one valid telephone number and area code, the processor will automatically select the area code and 7-digit number to be dialed out to the network (Col 6 lines 5-19).

f. **Claim 6:** Yamartino's auto dialer can examine a dialed 7-digit telephone number and create a list of possible telephone numbers with associated area codes (Col 4 lines 16-20). If the list only contains one valid telephone number and area code, the processor will automatically select the area code and 7-digit number to be dialed out to the network

(Col 6 lines 5-19). The selection of the phone numbers and area codes on the list is based upon the prefix (exchange number) and suffix (subscriber number) entered by the caller.

g. Claim 7: Yamartino's auto dialer can examine a dialed 7-digit telephone number and create a list of possible telephone numbers with area codes (Col 4 lines 16-20). Yamartino mentions that the list may be visually displayed to the user, and that the user may use the keypad to dial a digit in order to select the number to be dialed (Col 6 lines 31-53).

h. Claim 8: Yamartino's auto dialer can examine a dialed 7-digit telephone number and create a list of possible telephone numbers with area codes (Col 4 lines 16-20). Yamartino mentions that the list may be audibly presented to the user with a voice synthesizer, and that the user may use the keypad to dial a digit in order to select the number to be dialed (Col 6 lines 31-53).

i. Claim 9: Yamartino discloses a method for auto-dialing a telephone number (comprising a prefix, suffix, and area code) after the caller has entered a standard 7-digit telephone number (without the area code) comprising:

i. Storing telephone number area codes along with their associated 7-digit telephone numbers in a database (Col 7 lines 6-11).

ii. Entering in a telephone number (Col 4 lines 62 to Col 5 line 7).

iii. Comparing the prefix and suffix of the dialed number to a database of stored numbers and area codes (Col 7 lines 38-47).

iv. Dialing an area-code followed by a 7-digit telephone number once a user has dialed a 7 digit phone number whose prefix matches a previously stored number associated with an area code stored in a database (Col 10 lines 31-39).

j. Claim 10: In Yamartino's auto-dialer, the first plurality of digits comprises 10 digits including the area code and 7-digit telephone number. The second plurality of digits is a standard telephone number, which is comprised of a 3 digit prefix and a 4 digit suffix.

k. Claim 11: Yamartino discloses a method for auto-dialing a telephone number (comprising a prefix, suffix, and area code) after the caller has entered a standard 7-digit telephone number (without the area code) comprising:

i. Storing telephone number area codes along with their associated 7-digit telephone numbers in a database (Col 7 lines 6-11).

ii. Entering in a telephone number (Col 4 lines 62 to Col 5 line 7).

iii. Comparing the prefix and suffix of the dialed number to a database of stored numbers and area codes (Col 7 lines 38-47).

iv. If the prefix corresponds to multiple area codes, then the processor will allow the caller to select the correct area-code from a list via selector 155 (Fig. 1) (Col 5 line 64 to Col 6 line 7)

v. Dialing an area-code followed by a 7-digit telephone number once a user has dialed a 7 digit phone number whose prefix matches a previously stored number associated with an area code stored in a database (Col 10 lines 31-39).

l. **Claim 12:** In Yamartino's method, the first plurality of digits comprises 10 digits including the area code and 7-digit telephone number. The second plurality of digits is a standard telephone number, which is comprised of a 3-digit prefix and a 4-digit suffix.

m. **Claim 13:** Yamartino's auto-dialing method includes examining a dialed 7-digit telephone number and creating a list of possible telephone numbers with associated area codes (Col 4 lines 16-21). The selection of the phone numbers and area codes on the list is based upon the prefix (exchange number) and suffix (subscriber number) entered by the caller.

n. **Claim 14:** Yamartino's auto-dialing method examines a dialed 7-digit telephone number and creates a list of possible telephone numbers with area codes (Col 4 lines 16-20). Yamartino mentions that the list may be visually displayed to the user, and that the user may use the keypad to dial a digit in order to select the number to be dialed (Col 6 lines 31-53).

o. **Claim 15:** Yamartino's auto dialer can examine a dialed 7-digit telephone number and create a list of possible telephone numbers with area codes (Col 4 lines 16-20). Yamartino mentions that the list may be audibly presented to the user with a voice synthesizer, and that the user may use the keypad to dial a digit in order to select the number to be dialed (Col 6 lines 31-53).

p. **Claim 16:** Yamartino mentions that the phone dialer (which includes the microprocessor and non-volatile memory) may be implemented as part of the telephone switching system, which is located in a central office (Col 3 line 66 to Col 4 line 11).

q. **Claim 17:** Yamartino mentions that the phone dialer (which includes the microprocessor and non-volatile memory) may be implemented on a personal computer that may be part of the telephone switching system, which is located in a central office (telephone utility switching center)(Col 3 line 66 to Col 4 line 11).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Jamal whose telephone number is 703-305-3433. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis A Kuntz can be reached on 703-305-4708. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9315 for After Final communications.

DUC NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

AJ
August 18, 2003